



Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)

E-Newsletter

February 2012

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Ever been asked to serve on the board of CFSC (or thought about it)?

Service on a Yearly Meeting committee, such as Canadian Friends Service Committee, can be deeply enriching and seed longstanding friendships with Friends from coast-to-coast. If one does not understand what the service entails, it can be confusing, frustrating, and overwhelming. We want the experience of CFSC to be a good one, and so we have information available on our website (www.quakerservice.ca) that will help both Monthly Meeting Nominating Committees and Friends considering such service.

In particular, we draw your attention to CFSC's "New Member Orientation Package" which is normally sent to Friends just appointed to CFSC by CYM, it will give Friends who are thinking about serving on CFSC a good overview of CFSC the organization, how it fits into the Yearly Meeting, and specific responsibilities of board members and the Executive Committee. Download the package: <http://quakerservice.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/2012-Member-Orientation.pdf>

CFSC Liaisons have been sent more information, which they will make available to their Meeting's Nominating Committee and interested Friends.

CFSC Young Friend Internship – application deadline: March 1st

The internship is open to 19-29 year olds and runs from May 1 – August 31. Information and the application package are at: <http://quakerservice.ca/what-you-can-do/cfsc-summer-internship/>

Annual Appeal – help us meet our budget, which funds our programs!

2011 Annual Appeal and Report

Canadian Friends Service Committee (Quakers)

"Our principle is, and our practices have always been, to seek peace, and ensue it ... seeking the good and welfare, and doing that which tends to the peace of all."

Since 1990, CFSC has supported the vital community-based peace-building work of Friends in the Democratic Republic of Congo, which ranks 164 of 189 countries on the UN's Human Development Index (2010) and is known as the "cage capital of the world".

— from a letter to Charles H. Stein, 12 Quakers, 1862.

THANK YOU to the many friends of CFSC who responded to the Annual Appeal. Your support enables our programs that help end poverty, seed peace and justice, and share our Quaker perspective.

While the Appeal has made great strides, we are still \$35,000 short of our 2011-12 goal of \$205,000, so if you have not yet had a chance to give, please consider making a donation to CFSC. The Appeal can be found

at: <http://quakerservice.ca/what-you-can-do/donate/>

(Note: individual and Monthly Meetings' donations to Canadian Yearly Meeting do NOT support CFSC programming. To support CFSC's peace and social witness, please give directly to CFSC).

AGLI Workcamps in Burundi, Rwanda, and Kenya (June – July)

Ever thought about volunteering for an overseas workcamp?

CFSC overseas partner, the African Great Lakes Initiative (AGLI), is offering three workcamp options (Burundi, Rwanda, and Kenya) in cooperation with local Quaker Meetings. The workcamps will run June 23 – July 28 (Cost: minimum of \$2300 USD and return airfare). No skills required, all ages welcome. For more information go to www.aglifpt.org and click on “workcamps” or “volunteers” for more information and an application.

Interested but would like to speak with someone who has participated in an AGLI workcamp? Email Sheila Havard, CFSC board member and AGLI volunteer, at havard_translations@hotmail.com

Have a Heart for First Nations Children on Valentine’s Day



CFSC joins with First Nations Child and Family Caring Society in urging people – young and old – to celebrate Have a Heart Day for First Nations children by sending your free e-Valentine to the Prime Minister, your Member of Parliament and Provincial Premier in support of First Nations children having the same chance to grow up safely at home, go to good schools, be healthy and proud of who they are.

Find out more and think about hosting a Valentine's Day party in your First Day School, Meeting community or family to promote Have a Heart Day: www.fncaringsociety.com/have-a-heart

"Just Peace" -- a cause for celebration!

As the work of the [World Council of Churches' Decade to Overcome Violence](#) draws to culmination, the global church community that is the World Council of Churches has been able to declare: "The Churches have come to consensus on the affirmation that war can no longer be considered an act of justice." Hallelujah!

On 2-3 February, church leaders and others met in Waterloo, Ontario to discuss the Canadian churches' response to "*The Ecumenical Call to Just Peace*" by the World Council of Churches. [Project Ploughshares](#), an agency of the [Canadian Council of Churches](#) (Friends are members of both), is one the gatherings co-sponsors.

CFSC staff Gianne Broughton was appointed by the Yearly Meeting Clerks to present on behalf of Friends. Her presentation draws on CFSC's experience accompanying Quaker peace workers in D. R. Congo, and presents a four-part model for describing types of peace work. It is available on the CFSC website at: <http://bit.ly/xp4479>

Readers may also like to read "*An Ecumenical Call to Just Peace*" (15 pages) and "*The Just Peace Companion*" (120 pages); both documents are on www.overcomingviolence.org.

Learn about CFSC Grants

Individual Friends, active attenders, and local Meetings can apply for grants to support projects that intersect with Friends' concerns. The next deadlines are in September and October. To learn more, download our info sheet: http://quakerservice.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/cfsc_grants_0811.pdf

Pastoral Care Workshop – April 26th, Ottawa

The Church Council on Justice and Corrections (with which CFSC works in partnership and of which Canadian Yearly Meeting is a member church) is hosting a day-long workshop called “*Leading out of Pain – Victims’ Pastoral Care: The Search for Spiritual Healing from the Impacts of Violence*”. Cost: \$25. Location: Friends Meeting House, 91A Fourth Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario. **The deadline to register is March 15th**. For information visit: <http://ccjc.ca/2012/01/25/ccjc-to-host-workshop-on-pastoral-care-april-26th/> or email Schuyler Playford, CCJC staff, at SPlayford@ccjc.ca If you do decided to go, let us know – send a note to qfj@quakerservice.ca.

Learn more about Canada-based work on civil liberties

After 10 years, the International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group (ICLMG) has a website. The ICLMG is a national coalition of 40+ Canadian civil society organizations (including CFSC) that was established post 9/11 to defend the civil liberties and human rights. Access the high quality materials produced by ICLMG and get information on current actions by visiting www.iclmg.ca.

Climate change and sustainability resources



Quaker Peace and Social Witness (Britain) has produced a *Sustainability Toolkit* for use by Meetings. The *Toolkit* offers tools for learning, self-evaluation and practical action – as well as inspiration – to support meetings in becoming low-carbon, sustainable communities. If any Canadian Meeting decides to use it, let us know if it was a useful resource.

Link to the Toolkit: <http://www.quaker.org.uk/sustainability-toolkit>

In addition, *Religions for Peace* has produced “*Action and Advocacy for Climate Change: A Resource Guide for Religious Communities*” to facilitate multi-religious cooperation for climate change action. It contains information on how to advocate for climate change action, as well as ideas for local conversation and examples of faith communities already responding to climate change. Download it at: <http://religionsforpeace.org/assets/action-and-advocacy-for.pdf>

KAIROS’ report on issues at stake in Gateway Pipeline debate

Enbridge's Northern Gateway project, comprising two pipelines from northern Alberta across Indigenous lands to Kitimat, BC poses fundamental questions of social and ecological justice. Construction of the pipeline potentially transgresses the rights of the Indigenous peoples who have since time immemorial inhabited the lands and waters it would cross. The government has a responsibility to recognize Indigenous peoples' rights to determine whether any pipeline can traverse their lands. KAIROS has issued a new report on these issues. [Read the full report here](#). For more information contact John Dillon, Economic Justice Program Coordinator, jdillon@kairoscanada.org.

The CFSC E-Newsletter shares current concerns and information related to CFSC, its projects, and other news with Quaker Meetings in Canada, friends and donors to CFSC.

Share the E-Newsletter with friends and your Meeting or Worship Group’s E-mail list!

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Please support the work of CFSC: <http://www.cfsc.quaker.ca/pages/donate.html>